Vera Daerr Buchanan

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
PENNSYLVANIA

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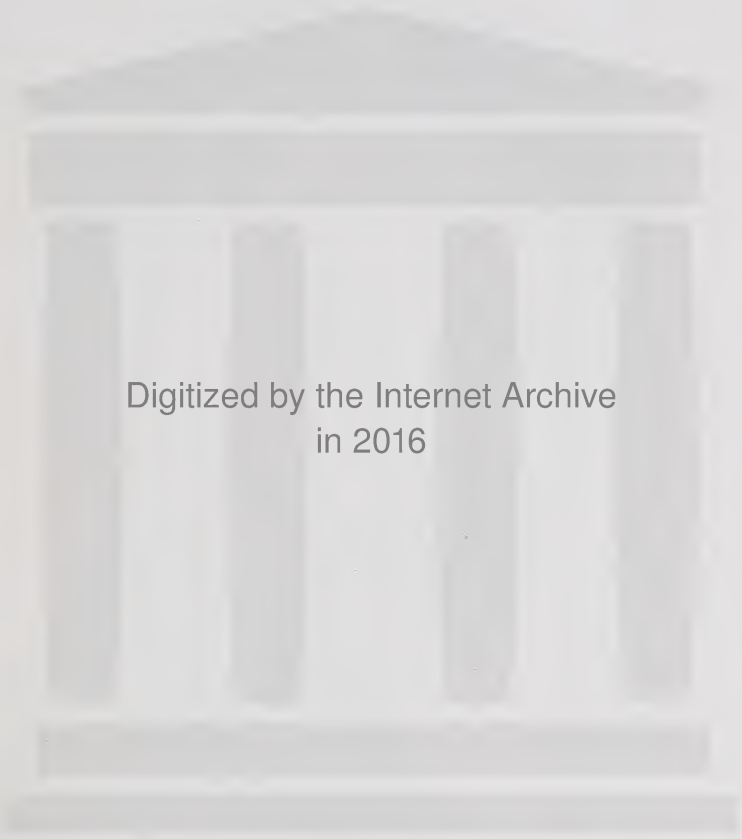
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Memorial Services

HELD IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND
SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, TOGETHER
WITH REMARKS PRESENTED IN EULOGY OF

Vera Daerr Buchanan

LATE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM
PENNSYLVANIA

Eighty-fourth Congress
Second Session

UNITED STATES
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Biography

VERA DAERR BUCHANAN (widow of Frank Buchanan), was born in Wilson (later a part of Clairton), Allegheny County, Pa., July 20, 1902; moved to Duquesne, Pa., and attended the public and parochial schools; elected as a Democrat to the Eighty-second Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, Frank Buchanan; relected to the Eighty-third and Eighty-fourth Congresses and served from July 24, 1951, until her death in McKeesport, Pa., November 26, 1955; interment in Mount Vernon Cemetery, in Elizabeth Township (near McKeesport), Pa.

Memorial Services
for
Vera Daerr Buchanan

Eighty-fourth Congress
Second Session

Proceedings in the House

TUESDAY, *January 3, 1956.*

The Chaplain, Rev. BERNARD BRASKAMP, D. D., offered the following prayer:

Almighty God, in Thy loving care and wise control are the coming in and the going out of all our days and years.

May we now enter upon this 2d session of the 84th Congress with renewed faith and fortitude, ever mindful of Thy gracious providence and assured of Thy divine sovereignty.

We are not afraid of tomorrow for we have seen yesterday and we love today.

Thou art always regarding with favor those who come unto Thee with a humble spirit and a contrite heart.

We beseech Thee to bless with Thy grace and solicitude our President, our Speaker, our chosen Representatives, and all Government employees.

Grant unto them the guidance of Thy holy spirit and a deep and abiding sense of Thy presence as they seek to discharge faithfully their many arduous tasks and responsibilities.

May the anxious and troubled soul of our beloved country and all humanity be filed with the joy of the Prince of Peace in whose name we pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Kelley].

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, words are futile and useless in the face of death. I feel that what I may say today is futile when I announce to the House, this great body, the death of our former Congresswoman from Pennsylvania, VERA BUCHANAN.

She died on November 26, after lingering for 5 months in hospitals. After entering a hospital in June, she never came out of the hospital.

I am not going to dwell on the valiant fight that Mrs. BUCHANAN put up clear to the end. We all know and realize how she struggled that she might continue her work in this great body.

Mrs. BUCHANAN was conscientious, most conscientious. She literally burned herself up as she performed her duties in this great House of Representatives. She followed in the footsteps of her husband, Frank Buchanan, who served here with distinction for a long time. The Buchanan family and my family were close, intimate friends. We find that within 5 years both have departed this life. She left behind two daughters and some grandchildren.

Mrs. BUCHANAN'S vivacity, charm, and wit won for her a place in the hearts of her colleagues and her constituents at home. She was a wonderful mother and a very proud grandmother and a truly wonderful Christian.

My family joins with me in extending to her family our condolences and our sympathy. We hope that she has found the solace and the peace which we all seek in this life but which cannot be found anywhere except in heaven.

Mr. Speaker, I now yield to the gentlewoman from Missouri [Mrs. Sullivan].

Mrs. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, I doubt if there is a single Member of this House who did not regard Representative

VERA DAERR BUCHANAN as a very special friend. Gracious, kind, gentle, she won friends easily. And she captured our hearts.

As many of the Members know, Congresswoman BUCHANAN and I were virtually inseparable during sessions of Congress. We had been casual acquaintances over the years while our husbands served here. This grew into a close friendship when we were both thrust into the new roles of Members, rather than as congressional wives. We had so much in common, and found ourselves so congenial, that we dared to put our friendship to the test of sharing a Washington apartment.

We were both told frequently, by mutual friends, that it was impossible for two women Members of Congress, with all of the problems we would have to take home with us each night involving our own home districts, to live together in perfect friendship.

It was more than understanding and pleasant—it was a delightful experience—because VERA BUCHANAN was one of the most unusual persons I have known. Consideration for others—a habit of doing for others—were so characteristic of her that they made of her not only an outstanding friend, but an unusually conscientious Member of Congress.

Her death on November 26 last, following a valiant battle against cancer, removed from our midst one of those rare personalities which we see so infrequently—one who can bring warmth to any gathering, and pleasant good humor to any conversation.

VERA walked in beauty—she took beauty with her everywhere she went.

We all know how hard she worked as a Member of Congress, how diligently she pursued her efforts on behalf of her constituents. Although in acute physical pain at the time, she refused to rest last spring, or to go to the hospital for a checkup, as so many of us had urged, because of the importance to her district of certain legislation then pending before the House.

She used to tell me how much the Turtle Creek flood-control project on which she was working would mean to families in her district whose possessions periodically would be wiped out by floods. Beautifully dressed as always, she had gone down into the flooded areas the previous fall to walk in the mud and filth left in home after home by the receding waters.

When the Banking and Currency Committee, on which we both served, was considering housing legislation, VERA BUCHANAN translated the technicalities of the legislation into terms that were a whole lot more meaningful to her—and to the families of steel workers in Homestead and Duquesne and McKeesport and Pittsburgh's Southside, and elsewhere in her district. She looked at this legislation in terms of people's homes—the pleasant, happy sort of home she had provided for her husband and their twin daughters through good years and bad, through depression and through the slim years when her husband was a schoolteacher. These are the things VERA BUCHANAN talked about to me when we discussed the problems of housing legislation and related matters.

She did not care who knew it—she was for the family which had to scrimp and struggle to get along. She had come from such herself.

Behind the vivaciousness, there was a deeply religious nature—a spiritual dedication which never wavered. Mrs. BUCHANAN was a devout Catholic; she practiced her faith without compromise. Her love of God, her true Christian spirit shone through in everything she did. Truly she walked with God.

And she seemed to have an instinctive knack for coming up with the right answer where human problems were concerned. I was often amazed by the steel-spring sharpness of her mind—it did not seem to go with the almost childlike beauty of this remarkable young grandmother. She had a native shrewdness which more than made up for the lack

of extensive formal education—and she served the public exceedingly well in her conscientious, untiring fashion.

To me, she was indeed a sister. Watching her waste away, a little each day, over the long weeks before she went home to McKeesport was an ordeal for me, and also a lesson in human strength. For VERA had the strength not only to prolong life far beyond the expectations of her doctors—she imparted strength to all of us who visited her.

Her death came on a Saturday morning almost 5 months to the day after we had half-carried her from the House floor to the physician's office, from where she had been whisked immediately to the naval hospital at Bethesda. It was a 5-month ordeal against overwhelming odds. But she was determined to get well, and anyone who watched her in that relentless battle to live could not help but believe she would make it.

On the Wednesday morning following her death, VERA BUCHANAN was buried high on a windswept hill commanding a beautiful view of the countryside she loved so well. She was laid to rest beside her husband. They share that resting place together, as they shared so much in life, and as they shared the joy of rearing their lovely twin daughters.

The day on which VERA BUCHANAN was buried was bitterly cold, and a searing wind sent wisps of snow across the cemetery. A tent provided little shelter against the wind, and none against the cold. Yet gathered there were hundreds of people who stayed through the bitter cold to pay final tribute to a friend—not to a political figure, but to a friend.

Many of us in the congressional delegation were impressed by the large number of postal workers and police and firemen in uniform who attended the church services and also the cemetery services. But the explanation was quickly given to us by one of them:

"When Mrs. BUCHANAN'S husband was mayor of McKeesport," he said, "she always took a strong interest in the

welfare of the city employees. We never forgot her for that. And the postal workers who are here, are here to pay honor to a friend—for they will tell you she was invariably their friend, and they appreciate that kind of friendship."

Mr. Speaker, I can only say as the McKeesport fireman had said, "She was a real friend."

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as she may desire to the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. Kelly].

Mrs. KELLY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with a very heavy heart that we are gathered here at this time to pay tribute to our former colleagues whom God called to their eternal home while Congress was in recess.

We not only esteemed them as legislators but also as friends dear to us. The Honorable VERA BUCHANAN was one of them. As a legislator she was honest and sincere, a true and able public servant. The State of Pennsylvania lost a most outstanding Representative and her constituents suffered a severe personal loss.

I consider it a privilege to have known VERA and to have worked with her. But now I choose to pay tribute to her for the manner in which she carried out her role in life, that for which we are all created and on which we all must be judged.

VERA BUCHANAN knew the purpose of life. She recognized God as her Creator and endeavored with all her will to fulfill the purpose of her existence; a dutiful wife and mother, and a public servant. These were her obligations.

Her record in the House stands undisputed for the latter. The former roles she lived up to to the best of her ability and assumed her full responsibility therein, the fruition of which can best be portrayed by the example she showed to all wives and to mothers, by leaving with her children the knowledge of the duty of her life well performed.

She was called to her eternal home to join her husband, and for this I share her joy.

To her children I extend sympathy knowing full well their keen loss. To them I say, "Follow the example of your mother and you, too, will fulfill your purpose in life, in your destiny which is for all of us the same, to honor God, to love God, and to be happy with Him forever in the next world."

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as she may desire to the gentlewoman from West Virginia [Mrs. Kee].

Mrs. KEE. Mr. Speaker, this is a sad time for all of us here in the United States House of Representatives. Our colleague, VERA BUCHANAN, passed away since we last met, and we are deeply grieved.

Who was VERA BUCHANAN, Mr. Speaker? It is not enough to say that she was a Member of Congress, an adoring mother, a fond grandmother, a wonderful wife, and an intelligent human being. She was a Christian lady in a sense that seems almost old fashioned in this day and time. She was never without her sense of goodness. She always walked with God. Her faith and religious devotion were a model to everyone who came in contact with her. If ever one human being born in original sin could be said to be one of His chosen, it was she, yet she walked the earth and suffered, and knew discouragement. But her faith and her God always brought her through.

VERA BUCHANAN'S death was a particular blow to me, for our public lives were formed on the same pattern. One week to the day before the death of Judge Kee, VERA'S husband, who was a Democratic Member of Congress from Pennsylvania, passed on. Exactly 1 week after I was elected to fill John Kee's place in Washington, the voters in VERA'S district returned her to the seat held by Mr. Buchanan. Seven days after I was sworn in as Representative to Congress, VERA BUCHANAN officially took the oath of office as a Member of this body.

We had known each other before. For years VERA had been working with her husband, as I had been helping mine. It was only natural that our common interest should bring us together in those happier days. Death brought us closer together. Now it has separated us for a while.

VERA'S passing was not unexpected. The last several months of her life were a time of uncertainty and suffering. Every time the telephone rang, I expected it to be a doctor calling to tell me the unhappy news. But still I hoped and prayed. Now the waiting is over. On a gray day in November I boarded a morning train in Washington, headed north to Pennsylvania and a quiet cemetery in a quiet town. There I heard a priest say the last words over the body of my dear friend, and it was all done.

But for a woman like VERA BUCHANAN it is never done, Mr. Speaker. So long as a single man walks this earth who has faith in God, and honesty, truth, and Christian idealism continue as the cornerstones of our way of life, VERA BUCHANAN will live. Although her name and face may someday be forgotten, her strong flame of faith will continue to burn throughout all time.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield such time as she may desire to the gentlewoman from Massachusetts [Mrs. Rogers].

Mrs. ROGERS of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, in mourning the passing of VERA BUCHANAN, I think everyone of us feels a deep sense of gratitude for a life so ably and so courageously lived.

I suppose that of all the traits and characteristics of people, perhaps the one I admire the most is courage, the courage to live a religious life, the courage to live in pain uncomplainingly. That is the trait I admired most in my dearly beloved friend, VERA BUCHANAN. I know full well the heartache that was involved in succeeding her husband in Congress as well as all the pride and thanksgiving that she felt

for the privilege of taking his seat and serving in the greatest legislative body in the world. I know from my own experience that such a succession is not an easy one. I know that her humor and gaiety often hid pain and heartache, and I loved her for her courage and indomitable spirit. Such was her nobility of spirit that no task was too small nor too great for her to undertake for the people of her district and her State.

So many have spoken of her great ability. Mrs. Sullivan's tribute was such a wonderful one that no one can add to it. I feel that her life here with us was a sort of benediction and a tremendous inspiration. All through that life she never forgot her God, she never forgot her work, which she did so ably, she never forgot her family or her friends.

And when she met with a terribly serious automobile accident, when she must have been in agony most of the time, her wonderful spirit helped her to carry on. Among her injuries she suffered a broken leg and was told that she would never walk again. But her reply was, "I will walk again," and she did. I admired her courage, too, in her terribly serious, painful illness. I never heard her complain. Although I knew her well, I had no idea she was seriously ill—I thought she had pneumonia and was getting better—and I did not visit her because I did not want to tire her, to take her strength.

I wish I could express what is in my heart of admiration for her and my love and good wishes to her family. I think that her life was a benediction to them and that they will live their lives as she would like to have them do. I think it is a benediction to us. We will all try harder here to carry on our work in courage and with what ability we have.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Illinois [Mrs. Church].

Mrs. CHURCH. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of deep personal loss that I rise to pay my tribute to VERA BUCHANAN.

She was one of those who proved indisputably though always delicately that there is a place in public life for a woman, maintaining all of her feminine capacity but dedicated equally with the men who serve here to the performance of her duty.

Mrs. Sullivan has spoken so beautifully, so tenderly of VERA BUCHANAN that it seems almost sacrilege for one to attempt to add anything to that tribute. She has said truly that VERA BUCHANAN walked with God. I would like merely to point out also that—perhaps because she did walk with God—she knew superbly how to walk with mankind, too.

She was almost the kindest person whom I have met in the Congress.

I think very few here knew that she and I had a tryst which we kept every year. She had come to Congress succeeding her husband shortly after I had come here in the same way. We both had a great deal to live up to, and we both took signal pride in trying to do so.

On the last day of our first session she looked across the aisle and said, with the rare human understanding which she had, "Why, Mrs. Church, it isn't easy for you to go home, either. Let's go have dinner together first, before we start."

I have thought about that often. I have marveled at the sympathy which could look across that aisle and understand what was in another person's heart. I have wondered at the ready response to a human need which had certainly been unspoken, and I have gained strength from her year by year by keeping a similar tryst on each last day of the Congress.

Last August, when we adjourned, VERA BUCHANAN was not here. She was in the hospital. I sent her a little note and told her that the memory of her kindness continued to build into me a courage and a strength and a faith.

She loved those twin daughters of hers. I would say to them today, in expressing my understanding sympathy, that

nothing can take from them that courage and that strength and that faith which was the foundation of their mother's life and which she built into everyone whose life touched hers, even if not intimately.

Mr. Speaker, we gentlewomen of the Congress are proud to have had VERA BUCHANAN on our list; and we know that no one who ever comes from our ranks will bring to her district or to the Congress or to our country more reasons for rejoicing, than she who lived so nobly, so purposefully, and with such great faith in those ideals and those realities which alone have permanence in a changing world.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Indiana [Mrs. Harden].

Mrs. HARDEN. Mr. Speaker, I know that all Members of the House shared my shock and deep regret at the passing of our beloved colleague, VERA BUCHANAN during the recent recess period. When I first became a Member of the House, I had the pleasure of living in the same building with her and her good husband, and we cherished their friendship. During the 5 years of VERA BUCHANAN'S service in the House, I learned to know her well and to know her was to love her and to respect her. She was a valued Member of this body, and she served her district and her State and Nation with distinction.

I, and my husband joins with me, extend our very deepest and sincerest sympathy to the members of her family. May God strengthen and comfort them.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. Multer].

Mr. MULTER. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of this otherwise happy reunion with our colleagues at the opening of the 2d session of the 84th Congress it becomes our sad privilege to participate in eulogies to two departed colleagues, JOHN

DINGELL and VERA BUCHANAN. Both of them earned our respect and our love. Both served long and well.

It was my privilege to have served in this House with the late Frank Buchanan, and to have served on the same committee with him. After our hearts were saddened by his departure from this life, we were temporarily gladdened when his place was taken by his charming wife, who succeeded him not only to the Congress but also took his place on the same committee upon which Frank had served. While Frank was with us, I knew VERA as his wife, his companion, and his constant and steady helpmate.

I learned to know VERA BUCHANAN as I had known Frank Buchanan, loyal, hard-working, intelligent, and considerate. I can think of no greater tribute to the two of them than to say that they had a keen sense of devotion to the services of the people of this country—not only of their district but of the country; they did their job intelligently and well and always with the utmost respect for viewpoints that differed from theirs. They vigorously, but pleasantly, pursued their points of view so as to bring to fruition that philosophy of life which they thought was best for this America of ours.

I join in saying "Amen" to all of the beautiful things that have been said so deservedly about our dear departed colleague. May the Lord rest her soul.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. Albert].

Mr. ALBERT. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in their expression of great personal loss on the death of my dear friend, VERA BUCHANAN. I had the honor and pleasure of meeting and getting to know the Buchanan family shortly after I first came to Congress.

I have known their lovely twin daughters since they were children.

I served on the Committee on Lobbying Activities with the late Honorable Frank Buchanan who was one of the finest and most conscientious Members of this House. I have been a close personal friend of Mrs. BUCHANAN for about 10 years. I have never known a lovelier, sweeter, or finer person. She was one of the most respected and delightful Members of this House. She was an able Congresswoman, a devoted wife and mother, and a wonderful friend.

To her twin daughters and their loved ones I extend my deepest personal sympathy.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. McCormack] such time as he may desire.

Mr. McCORMACK. Mr. Speaker, once more death has taken its toll from the House of Representatives, and this time we have the misfortune of losing one of our most energetic, experienced, and public spirited and most-respected Members in the person of Mrs. VERA D. BUCHANAN, of McKeesport, Pa.

Mrs. BUCHANAN was a Member of this House since mid-1951. In August of that year she was elected for the seat left vacant by the death of her husband, the late Frank Buchanan. She was reelected in 1952, and again in 1954. Thus, in a little more than 4 years, she faced the electorate 3 times and 3 times they affirmed their confidence in her. That fact in itself is sufficient testimony for her deserved popularity. But Mrs. BUCHANAN'S accomplishments and good deeds as a public servant cannot be confined to her years in this House. She was a devoted and inspiring aid to her husband while he was serving his three terms in this House. Thus she had had her apprenticeship in congressional affairs long before she became a Congresswoman. And this apprenticeship, as well as her experience in politics, served her well. In the 82d Congress she served on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries; in the

83d she served on Public Works Committee; and in the 84th Congress she was a member of the Committee on Banking and Currency. And on all of these committees she showed her keen interest in important issues, and she always tried to understand and evaluate them in terms of public benefit. But her interests were not limited to matters falling within the purview of committees on which she served. Her humanitarian interests touched on many phases of human activity. She was vitally concerned with legislation that had to do with public health and welfare, and with social and educational legislation as well. She never failed in her advocacy of Federal aid to State and local governments where such aid was meant for education and public welfare in general.

Several weeks prior to her death I was speaking in Butler, Pa., about 35 miles outside of Pittsburgh. On my way back to Boston I went over to McKeesport Hospital where Mrs. BUCHANAN was then a patient. Her daughter had previously told me that she was unconscious most of the time, but occasionally regained consciousness. She told me this as I spoke to her from my hotel in Pittsburgh. She told me that if I went over there her mother probably could not see me because of her condition. While I was talking with her she said the doctors just told her that her mother had regained consciousness and that she and her sister were hastening to see her. While she told me that she did not think I could see our late beloved colleague, I felt it was my duty on my way back to Boston to go to the McKeesport Hospital, even if I just entered the hospital, to know that I had gone to the hospital. Fortunately, when I arrived at the hospital I saw her two daughters, and Mrs. BUCHANAN was conscious. I went in to see her, and I was with her for 15 to 20 minutes. When I left I was happy that I saw her. Those eyes of courage that we saw so often on the floor of this House were still shining forth. She sent me a message, when she pouted her lips in a little kiss as I left, a goodby salutation. It was meant for the entire

membership of this House. I interpreted the pouting of her lips as she lay in bed unable to lift herself up, to rise, as a message for me to transmit to all of my colleagues in the House from her. She knew that death was coming. Prior to my visit she had been visited by a Catholic priest who administered the last rites of the Catholic Church; there was no question, she was conscious of the fact. They told me that death was expected almost any day, yet she survived for several weeks after that, her indomitable willpower, that determination of hers that kept her fighting and fighting and living on.

And that was this sweet girl, Mrs. BUCHANAN, who served with us in this body.

Her late husband I knew well also, a very close and valued friend of mine. It is very unusual that a family has both husband and wife serving in this body, and an unusual event in the history of our country. I said to her daughters: "You and your loved ones will derive great consolation in the knowledge that your father and mother both served in the Congress of the United States, honored by the people of their great constituency. Both your parents served with honor and distinction. As the years roll by that will be a great consolation to you and it will be a matter of valuable knowledge and consolation to your children, Frank and Mrs. BUCHANAN's grandchildren, as they grow up."

I tell this little story of my visit to her; and as I left—that message—she could not speak except in a whisper. What she said was to me not very audible but her daughters more or less could understand. However, she pouted her lips, and that pouting of her lips as I left was message to all of us which today I give to each one of my colleagues, a message coming from that gracious lady who now is dead.

To her loved ones who are left behind I extend my deep sympathy in their bereavement. They can derive, as I said, great consolation in the knowledge that both their father

and mother made their marked contribution to the progress of American history.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Flood].

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues to pay this word of tribute and affection as well to the memory of our truly beloved colleague, VERA BUCHANAN, from my State of Pennsylvania.

I would like to add this word of praise to those of my colleague the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Kelley]. I knew him to be a close friend of hers and of her late husband; I knew that his wife and VERA were friendly for so long.

Mr. Speaker, as I think of her late handsome and distinguished husband, Frank, with his flowing white hair and distinguished carriage, who graced these halls for so many years, I call attention to an admonition in the Book of Revelations: "Be thou faithful unto death." We Members from Pennsylvania and our friends from other States called him by his nickname Buck. He was known as Buck in his hometown where he served as mayor. Then VERA came to us. She could enjoy a play on words. Many of us would call VERA: "Hello Buck; good morning, Buck." She would smile and enjoy that passage of words as only VERA could. A great sense of humor. Such a very little woman, a very charming little lady. She came here to succeed her beloved husband in his career. I can imagine Buck saying to her: "Be thou faithful unto death." Mr. Speaker, VERA was that, as you have heard from her colleagues this day.

There are many nice things that have been said today, there are many more that will be said of her service upon the committees of the House, her interest in the affairs of her State, her people, and conditions. But I think chiefly of VERA because I always felt her quiet and calm and very peaceful presence. She would sit here with her hands folded in her

lap smiling and I always felt near her a deep tranquillity of peace in her soul.

I now see her reunited again with her beloved husband. Down through the avenues of time will they go hand in hand as they came to us here.

VERA BUCHANAN came of people from a coal mining town and only we who come from that kind of problem know the blood and the sweat and the tears and the privations and the suffering of those two wonderful people who rose from a coal patch to this great place in Congress. Truly that is the American story, that is the voice of democracy.

So, Mr. Speaker, when I speak of VERA and of Buck, her man, I say to you that "they are not dead as we who are left shall die. Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we shall remember them."

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. Corbett].

Mr. CORBETT. Mr. Speaker, both Frank and VERA BUCHANAN were friends and neighbors of mine. We traveled the same roads, we rode the same trains, we rode the same planes. We represented here an area, Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, Pa., whose problems were definitely the same. I report to her many friends here that her service to her home community was just as adequate there as it was here.

When we were called together by any of the important social, political, or economic groups of that great metropolitan area, she was faithful in her attendance and capable in her performance.

It has been a very interesting and pleasant thing that the four Members of Congress from that great county who have served here together were, without exception, able to cooperate for the mutual advantage of that county when it was not detrimental to the best interests of these United States. She

and Frank before her were most enjoyable colleagues and coworkers.

On behalf of Mr. Eberharter, who has suffered the tragic loss of his wife during the past year and who is suffering from an illness himself, and also on behalf of Mr. Fulton, who is temporarily absent, may I say we share with you the love, the affection, and the admiration that we all had for VERA BUCHANAN and for her husband and family and that we, too, want to say "Amen" to the sincere tributes that have been paid this day.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. O'Hara].

Mr. O'HARA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is not given to us to understand the pattern of life. In the frailty of our human limitations we cannot question the nature of its weavings.

When in the evening of my life I came to the Congress, I found awaiting me with a warm handclasp and the spirit of an old and affectionate association reborn in the climate of a new association, a dear and time-tested friend, Ralph Church. I also found new friends. Frank Buchanan served on the committee to which I was assigned. We were members of the same college fraternity, we became close and fast friends. When word reached me one dinnertime at the Congressional Hotel that Red was dead, it was VERA and Frank who waited with me, wrapping me about with sympathetic friendship and understanding until the first plane left for Chicago and the burial of a faithful dog who for 16 years had enriched with loving service the dear ones of my household. VERA and Frank always were that understanding and that tender.

I left here with the close of the 81st Congress, defeated for membership in the 82d. It was VERA and Frank who came to me on my departure, and to say, "Barratt, you will be returned and we will be here to greet you back."

Not many months after that Frank Buchanan in the virility of his prime died and he was succeeded in the Congress by VERA. VERA, in the 84th Congress was assigned to the Committee on Banking and Currency. Nothing could have reached deeper into her heart than to be on the committee where her beloved Frank had served before her with such distinction. Now VERA has passed on, to be reunited in the eternity of timeless love with her Frank.

Also came to say goodby to me and to cheer me with assurance of my soon return Leonor and John Sullivan, John much younger than I, strong in mind and body, a great American on the very threshold of an outstandingly distinguished service in the Congress, as sweet and tender as the breath of a summer's breeze perfumed by its passage over beds of roses. When I returned to the 83d Congress John had ascended to higher realms and in his place, carrying on his work as VERA was carrying on Frank's work, was Leonor.

I have been moved today by the tributes to the sweetness, the charm, the worth and character of VERA BUCHANAN by Margaret Church, Leonor Sullivan, and the other Congresswomen of whom we are so proud and who daily furnish to this House and to the Nation an inspiring and strengthening epic of a wife's devotion to the memory of her departed mate expressed by the courage with which she carries on the work to which he was dedicated.

Mr. Speaker, I can give to the memory of VERA BUCHANAN no higher tribute, none that she if listening would value more, than just this: As a Congresswoman she was of Frank's pattern, and of the record that she made in this body he would have been most proud. She was inspired in her service among us, as are Mrs. Sullivan, Mrs. Church, and the others who have spoken, by the restless drive and never-ceasing urge to do the job here for country, for mankind, and for God as their husbands would have wished it done.

We can never understand the pattern of life. We should not cross the will of God by questioning the nature of its weaving. VERA BUCHANAN has left us a heritage of courage.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. Hays].

Mr. HAYS of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, VERA BUCHANAN was a very close personal friend of mine both here on the floor and in private life. Vocabulary is inadequate to say the things that one would like to say about her. I think it was a touching tribute to her when I was in Europe this fall that every time our committee would run across someone from home who had recently come over, about the first thing they would ask is whether or not anyone had heard from VERA. She had a heart that was so big that I often wondered how it could be contained in such a small body. She was light-hearted, yet she was courageous; she was cheerful; she could be firm. She was truly a great Christian. She played a little game right up to the last with her family because she knew that she was fatally ill and she kept it from them, or she thought she did. As far as she was concerned, she did not let her daughters know that her condition was as serious as it was. Right up to the end she kept saying that she was going to get well, knowing full well in her heart that she was not. She had a great deal of faith and a tremendous amount of courage. And as I was driving across the wind-swept hills of Pennsylvania to her funeral the immortal words of Longfellow came to my mind that sort of sums up her life. I had not thought of them for perhaps 20 years.

Life is real, life is earnest,
And the grave is not its goal;
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul.

VERA BUCHANAN believed that. May her soul rest in peace.

Mr. EBERHARTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I speak today of the tragic passing of Representative VERA BUCHANAN, whose district in the Pittsburgh area adjoins mine and whose office in the House Office Building was next door to mine. The relationship was much closer than that, however, and the sense of personal loss for me is really beyond verbal expression.

When her husband, the late Frank Buchanan, came to Congress in 1946, we had already been friends for some years, but our mutual efforts in behalf of the Pittsburgh and Allegheny County area brought us much closer and also brought our families close together. Congressman Buchanan, as all who served with him will remember, was a particularly hard-working Member, conscientious, a student of government. He worked long hours, and often against great discouragements. His vivacious wife always was able to lift his spirits at the end of a hard day on the Hill, and that buoyancy was contagious—all of us could feel it and share in it.

That was the role in life which VERA BUCHANAN enjoyed and intended to pursue for the rest of her life—to help her husband to do the great things he wanted to do as a legislator, to help him by being for him a source of strength and encouragement, and to impart to him the joy which she derived from life and from her role as the wife of Frank Buchanan. His untimely death in 1951 was a shock, a tragedy, which shattered her life and destroyed a fine dream.

Drawing then upon inner strength of great magnitude, VERA BUCHANAN took what for her was an almost frightening step—she who had remained entirely in the background while her husband pursued his career in public service, ran for Congress and was elected to fill her husband's unexpired term. Every speech she made in that campaign was a personal ordeal, for she had not been trained to occupy the speaking platform with ease. Yet she went ahead with

this demanding task, determined to carry on as best she could the kind of record which Frank Buchanan had been building in Congress.

As we all know, she fulfilled her responsibilities admirably. She was one of the most conscientious Members this House ever had. She had one of the very best attendance records. She cast her votes only after the utmost deliberation and care. She did not hesitate to seek advice from other Members whose opinions she valued. When she didn't know the answer to a difficult legislative problem, she sought out those who she felt had the answers, or who she believed could guide her in finding the solution for herself.

This is the side of VERA BUCHANAN which so many Members saw on the House floor or in committee. But as long-standing family friends, Mrs. Eberharter and I had many occasions to know and to marvel at the depth and meaning which VERA BUCHANAN attached to the gift of her friendship. She was kind and thoughtful at all times, and unsparing of herself in behalf of all who were her friends.

In sorrow, one learns the meaning of friendship as at no other time. VERA BUCHANAN, I can attest, was, above all, one who always met gloriously the challenge of friendship with true and sincere and genuine human kindness and consideration for others.

I can only say, Mr. Speaker, that in missing now her friendly ways and thoughtful actions, I am but one of a great legion of her friends.

To the Buchanans' lovely twin daughters, Joan—Mrs. William Cavalcante—and Jane—Mrs. John E. Thomas, Jr.—goes the sympathy of every Member of the House. Those of us who were privileged to know both parents as colleagues here in the House and who were privileged to be their friends have been fortunate, indeed, for in both Frank and VERA BUCHANAN we saw the example of conscientious devotion to duty and unflagging effort. But most of all we

were fortunate to have their friendship, a truly precious possession.

Mr. MORGAN. Mr. Speaker, it was with profound regret that I learned of the untimely passing of our dear friend and colleague, the Honorable VERA BUCHANAN, the able and distinguished Representative of the 13th District of Pennsylvania. Mrs. BUCHANAN was the widow of Representative Frank Buchanan, and she was a devoted wife and helpmate to her husband while he was in Congress. She was elected to the 82d Congress on July 24, 1951, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband, and she served in the 83d and 84th Congresses. To my knowledge, this is the first instance in history where a husband and wife have both died while serving as Members of Congress.

Mrs. BUCHANAN represented a neighboring district to my own and I knew her well and admired her. She was loyal, unselfish, and was a devoted mother. Her passing is a distinct loss not only to her community, but to the House of Representatives. I want to join in extending my most sincere sympathy to her family.

Mr. SMITH of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, those of us in the House who have been working over the years for effective flood control and for navigation improvement could always count on Congresswoman BUCHANAN to give us every possible help and her complete support. She served with distinction as a member of the Committee on Public Works. As a native of the Pittsburgh area, she had seen how devastating floodwaters of the Allegheny, Monongahela, Youghiogheny, and other tributaries of the Ohio could be in destroying homes, businesses, and the hopes of countless families—how they spread disease and death along with property damage. Her own home city, McKeesport, was subject to frequent floods along with Pittsburgh until the great system of reservoirs was constructed in that area after the 1936 disaster. Now the Pittsburgh area is considered virtually floodproof.

One section of Mrs. BUCHANAN's district is not immune from floods, however, and the Congresswoman worked tirelessly to bring about a flood-control project for the Turtle Creek Valley, where the headquarters plant of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing Co. and where many other major industrial plants are located. Floods there were a constant source of concern to Mrs. BUCHANAN and as a member of the House Committee on Public Works she continually worked for completion of a preliminary survey begun previously under a resolution introduced by her late husband, Representative Frank Buchanan.

When the results of this survey were reported to Congress early last year, Mrs. BUCHANAN then initiated steps to have funds appropriated for the comprehensive survey the engineers recommended, and she carried through on this objective with the single-minded purpose and the dedicated determination of a crusader. Despite discouragements and setbacks, she persevered until sufficient funds were made available by Congress to begin the survey under a schedule which should see its completion within 2 years.

For this, every resident and businessman in the Turtle Creek Valley owes a great deal to Congresswoman BUCHANAN. She has gone into the flooded homes and businesses in the town of Turtle Creek and the neighboring communities which were in the path of the floodwaters, and she never forgot the tragic scenes she had witnessed. As one who worked with her on this project, I can attest to the conscientious manner in which she pursued the goal of assuring an effective flood-control program for the Turtle Creek Valley to protect the residents there from similar scenes of terror and destruction in the future.

When, as, and if that project is completed, it will certainly stand as a monument to a fine woman who was a fine servant of the people whom she represented in the Congress of the United States.

Mr. FULTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues and as one of the personal friends of Congresswoman VERA BUCHANAN to join in the many praises of her dedicated service while in the House.

VERA BUCHANAN represented the 30th District of Pennsylvania, which is contiguous to my own congressional district, and I have been a good friend of a long period of time of both Congressman Frank Buchanan as well as Congresswoman VERA BUCHANAN.

We in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County remember the tragic death of Congressman Frank Buchanan while serving as a Member of this body, and know with what effort and success VERA BUCHANAN has worked to fill the vacancy caused by his death.

VERA BUCHANAN has been interested in many issues involving the welfare of the family and the safety of the home, as well as the progress of the younger generation. On one particular project on which we Congressmen from Allegheny County all worked, in cooperation with VERA BUCHANAN, was the obtaining of the appropriation for the study for flood-control purposes of the Turtle Creek Valley area, where so many homes had been ravaged and so much industry hurt in recent disastrous floods. It is to VERA BUCHANAN'S credit that as a comparatively new Member she was able in such a short time to get action on this flood-control problem.

It is interesting for me to recall Congresswoman VERA BUCHANAN'S strong interest and cooperation when, together with the other Congressmen from Allegheny County and our western Pennsylvania area, I helped work out with the local, county, State, and national officials, the free surplus food-distribution program, which has been giving supplementary food to almost 175,000 citizens who have been in economic distress over the past months. She stood strongly for the protection of the homes and the families in insisting that these United States agricultural surplus foods be made available

for free distribution upon the certification of need by local surplus food boards, so that the children of the coming generation, even in times of unemployment in our cities, would grow strong and healthy. I remember distinctly that when the program was in danger that it was Congresswoman VERA BUCHANAN who sat beside me in an all-day conference with our Allegheny County commissioners and the administrators of the surplus-food program in Allegheny County, in working out the details of administration with our Pennsylvania State officials, as well as with the United States Department of Agriculture officials, so that the program, on a report made to me only yesterday, is running smoothly in Allegheny County, giving assistance to so many needy persons.

It is also pleasant to remember Congresswoman VERA BUCHANAN'S strong stand at the conferences at the United States Department of Agriculture when various pressure groups tried to limit unduly the program of surplus food distribution to the needy.

These activities of VERA BUCHANAN were more than she needed to have done to fulfill her duties as Congresswoman, but she gave to the last of her strength in trying to work out these programs and projects, which are of the heart as well as the head.

As we assembled today for our first session, many of her friends have spoken to me, and we all unanimously agree that we miss her hearty smile, warm greeting, and pleasant manner. We in this House extend our sincere sympathy to her family and good friends and hope that she will long be remembered as a sincere, friendly, and hard-working Member of this body as was her husband, Frank Buchanan, before her.

Mrs. ST. GEORGE. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my small tribute to the memory of our colleague, VERA BUCHANAN, the first woman to pass on into the Great Beyond while serving as a Member of the Congress of the United States.

VERA BUCHANAN succeeded her husband and was in every way a most worthy follower and successor. She had gentleness, with firm convictions and loyalties. She was lighthearted and gay, yet she fully appreciated the sorrows of this world and of its people. She was truly feminine, in the best sense of the term, and made her greatest contribution as a woman, a mother, and a devoted wife.

As I think of her, I keep thinking of the words: "Those whom the gods love die young." Young in heart and soul and young in the hearts of those who knew and loved her.

Mr. VANIK. Mr. Speaker, it has been my privilege to know and work with Mrs. VERA BUCHANAN during the 1st session of the 84th Congress. As a member of the Banking and Currency Committee and as a fellow passenger on frequent air trips between Washington and Pittsburgh, I came to know Mrs. BUCHANAN very well. Her clear and unaffected insight into the problems of human affairs as well as her work in this Congress was inspiring.

Her warm and friendly spirit and her patient understanding will be missed by all of her colleagues in Congress.

What more can I say except that I am among those many people who are saddened by her passing.

Mr. RHODES of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, scarcely 5 years ago on a similar unhappy occasion, many of us here today took the floor to pay our respects to the memory of Frank Buchanan, a distinguished and respected friend and colleague. Frank Buchanan's untimely passing was a profound shock and a great loss to the American people and the Nation. He was a close personal friend of mine and a courageous, conscientious legislator endowed with humility and humanitarianism.

In the course of time it was my privilege to know and respect his wife, VERA BUCHANAN, who had won election and reelection to carry on the fight for liberal principles and legis-

lation to benefit all Americans. VERA BUCHANAN was a truly remarkable woman who nobly advanced the record of service begun by her late husband. In her 4 years of unselfish and devoted service in the House of Representatives VERA BUCHANAN won the heartfelt respect and admiration of her colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Her modesty and her warm personality were unaffected by the transition to public life. VERA BUCHANAN consistently stood for the liberal and humanitarian principles to which her late husband had devoted his life and made significant contributions on her own in the legislative struggles during her service in this Chamber.

While the serious nature of her illness had been known for some months, her premature passing was nonetheless a severe shock. We have lost a sincere, capable, and courageous Members who will be sadly missed by those of us who knew her and valued her friendship.

My deep feelings of sympathy goes out to her daughters and other relatives in their great loss.

Mr. ROONEY. Mr. Speaker, I know all our hearts have been saddened by the untimely passing of our dear friend and distinguished colleague, the Honorable VERA BUCHANAN, of Pennsylvania. It is with deep emotion and a feeling of great sorrow that I pay brief, but nonetheless sincere tribute to the life and character and public service of such a noble lady.

We know the valiant fight she made during her illness and her courageous efforts to carry on with the duties to which she had dedicated herself in this body. As a member of the House Banking and Currency Committee she was a considerable influence in securing the enactment of legislative proposals beneficial to the people of her district, State, and Nation.

VERA BUCHANAN was a most sincere and conscientious legislator who capably followed the footsteps of her late husband, my good friend, Frank Buchanan, whose memory I shall always cherish.

VERA was always gracious and charming and endeared herself to her host of friends and constituents. I shall always remember with fond recollection her appearance at the third assembly district Democratic organization reception and ball, held last May in my congressional district in Brooklyn. At that time she was in New York with a group of congressional friends on a tour of the city and it was a pleasant surprise when she took the time on such a short trip to come over to Brooklyn and honor us with her presence.

I am sure that I speak not only for myself but for all the Members of this House and her legion of friends when I say that her memory will linger in our hearts forever. My prayer is that her two lovely daughters will be consoled by the fact that her life was dedicated to fulfilling her role as a conscientious mother and carrying on with the fight for liberal and democratic principles to which her late husband had devoted his life. Her daughters and their families have my deepest sympathy in their great loss.

Mr. GAVIN. Mr. Speaker, it was with great sadness we recorded the passing of our beloved friend, VERA BUCHANAN, of McKeesport, Pa.

VERA BUCHANAN joined us in the 82d Congress succeeding her late husband, Frank Buchanan, to represent one of the great industrial areas—not alone in Pennsylvania but in the United States.

She was very close to the people of her district, and she understood the people of her district, which eminently qualified her to so ably represent them. She evidenced a love of people by her good counsel, kind deeds, and useful services. She had the power of understanding and sympathizing with people regardless of whom or what their difficulties may have been. She was a very hard-working, conscientious Representative who took the problems of her people to heart, always manifesting great interest and concern for the welfare of those she represented.

The people of her district loved her and respected her ability which was evidenced by the great popularity she enjoyed.

She was very faithful in the performance of her duties and by her work in the Congress won great respect and the admiration of the membership on both sides of the aisle.

VERA had a legion of friends. In a life such as hers, perhaps the thing most to be admired was her gracious, kindly attitude and the great civic, social, and spiritual contributions she made to the area in which she lived.

It can be said of VERA that she made the best of life as she found it and rejoiced mightily when any little word or deed of hers added to the happiness of any of us. In all things she had charity; tolerance was of her nature. She respected in others the quality she possessed herself—sincerity of conviction and frankness of expression.

She was a firm believer in our American way of life and her great ambition was to hand on to posterity and the generations of tomorrow a greater and finer America than was handed to her.

She was kindly and sympathetic to all; always glad to see one; gracious to everyone; and will be long remembered for her many little acts of kindness that marked her friendship and good will toward all of us who knew her.

So today we mourn her loss. She will be greatly missed by her many friends and by the people she represented. It is with profound sadness we record her passing. We extend to her family our heartfelt sympathy.

Mr. ABERNETHY. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in expressing the sadness of this House on the passing of Representative VERA BUCHANAN. The House has lost an able and distinguished Member, and we have lost a vivacious and winsome friend.

VERA BUCHANAN succeeded her husband, Representative Frank Buchanan, who had served long in this House with marked ability. She soon made her own place in this body

and her devotion to the interests of her constituents and to the public welfare twice won her reelection.

No matter how heavy the duties became she never lost the pleasantness and genuine sweetness of character which she brought to all her relationships. Her untimely passing is the greater sorrow to those of us who knew her for the reason that she herself was so vital, so full of the goodness of life. She truly made an art of friendship and all those here who knew her are the better for it.

In our own loss of a useful Member and friend, we extend condolences to her family to whom she gave much love and to her constituents to whom she rendered great service.

I believe it will be appropriate to quote here the lines of Henrietta Huxley:

> "Be not afraid, ye waiting hearts that weep,
> For God still 'giveth his beloved sleep',
> And if an endless sleep He wills, so best."

Mr. SIMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, all of us who knew and worked with Mrs. VERA BUCHANAN were deeply shocked at the news of her tragic and untimely passing. We counted her as both a friend and as an untiring worker for the principles in which she believed. Our hearts go out to her two lovely daughters, Joan and Jane, in their hour of bereavement.

Though we may have disagreed from time to time on various issues before this House, we respected VERA for her honesty of purpose and close attention to each detail of the complex job involved in representing the people of her district. Her conscientious and thorough-going approach to all matters was an example which each one of us would be well advised to emulate.

Those of us who represent the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in this House feel Mrs. BUCHANAN's loss especially, inasmuch as she was one of our number. I was honored to be one of those selected by the Speaker to attend the

memorial services for this gracious lady. It was a beautiful tribute to one who so richly earned and deserved the undying respect and admiration of her many friends and acquaintances.

Mr. MACK of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it was with great sorrow the Members of the House heard the sad news of the untimely passing of VERA BUCHANAN.

Those of us who knew and admired VERA BUCHANAN as a friend and colleague through the years of her service in the House of Representatives join in expressions of deepest sympathy to the members of her wonderful family in their bereavement.

No one could have more ably served the 30th Congressional District of Pennsylvania than has VERA BUCHANAN. Her unselfish devotion to the things she believed in and her untiring efforts on behalf of her constituents have taken her far beyond the usual line of duty. She was gentle, gracious, and courteous at all times and made a deep and abiding impression on all who knew her.

The passing of such a capable Member of Congress leaves us all with a feeling of deep regret and sorrow. It can truly be said in consolation for the loved ones she leaves behind that she earned the esteem and gratitude of all of us, and that she was a faithful and loyal servant of not only her constituents but of our entire country.

Mr. DAGUE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that we come to the contemplation of the untimely passing of our respected and esteemed colleague the Honorable VERA BUCHANAN. She was a stimulating and winsome person, and we all learned to appreciate her undoubted contribution to this body. As one who engages infrequently in debate myself, I know that a Member's greatest service to his constituents can never be gauged by his eloquency in debate on the floor, and it's with that in mind that we commend our late colleague to the consideration of all those who place

value on a complete dedication to the welfare of a Member's constituents, which was her greatest attribute.

Mrs. BUCHANAN was my good and respected friend, and I shall continue to mourn her passing as the loss of one for whom I always had an abiding admiration. My family joins with me in extending to her children and grandchildren our heartfelt condolences as well as our prayerful solicitation for that strength and courage which they so sorely need in this sad hour.

Mr. ZABLOCKI. Mr. Speaker, many deserving and glowing tributes have been paid to our late colleague, VERA BUCHANAN, by Members of Congress. They clearly show the place that she has held in our hearts.

I also want to pay my humble homage to the memory of this remarkable lady who has been called to the far beyond so early in life. Her warm, friendly spirit, and her strong courage will be missed by all of her colleagues in the House of Representatives.

Mrs. BUCHANAN'S unselfish and devoted service to her constituents will be greatly missed by the people of her district in Pennsylvania. Her devotion to her husband when he was a Congressman, and the manner in which she carried on after him, have been an inspiration to many of us. She made significant contributions to constructive legislation, and her humanitarian principles were constantly in evidence in her actions and speeches on this floor.

I wish to extend my sincerest sympathy to Mrs. BUCHANAN'S family upon their tremendous loss. May they draw some consolation from the knowledge of the fact that we share their sorrow, and from the hope that the Almighty has called her to be among His very own.

Mr. REUSS. Mr. Speaker, sympathy and understanding, joined with a dedicated devotion to duty, were the characteristics of Mrs. VERA BUCHANAN which make her passing

such a great loss to all of us in this House, as well as to the citizens whom she so ably represented.

Serving with her on the Banking and Currency Committee, as a freshman member I benefited greatly from her conscientious example of public service. She gave freely of her warm friendship, and the compassionate qualities of her concern for the welfare of the men and women of her district were an inspiration to all of her colleagues.

The personal loss I feel at VERA BUCHANAN'S death, after only 1 year of service together in this House, is a measure of—and a tribute to—the heart and soul of a great American.

Mr. SPENCE. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow that I rise to add my small tribute to the memory of my friend and colleague, the Honorable VERA BUCHANAN, late a Representative from the 30th District of Pennsylvania. I know that this feeling is shared by all of us here, for her courageous spirit, her patience and understanding were an inspiration to all who knew her.

Mrs. BUCHANAN was elected to the 82d Congress on July 24, 1951, to succeed her husband, the late Frank Buchanan. Like her husband, she worked hard for the people of her district, and they returned her to the 83d and 84th Congresses. After having previously served on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries and the Committee on Public Works, she was elected to the Committee on Banking and Currency in the 84th Congress. As you know, the Banking and Currency Committee deals with housing matters. We are constantly concerned with the statistics of housing, and their effect on the Nation's economy. Being a successful homemaker herself, Mrs. BUCHANAN brought to the committee a special insight in housing matters, and a warm understanding of the problems and needs of homemakers and the importance of the home in American family life.

A severe case of pneumonia overtook Mrs. BUCHANAN last year when she had devoted her energies to the point of exhaustion in support of housing and flood-control legislation

for her constituents. Her death on November 26 deprived the people of her district of a devoted and courageous representative. The House has lost a sincere and capable Member who will be sadly missed by those of us who knew her and valued her friendship.

My deep feeling of sympathy goes out to her two daughters and other relatives in their great loss.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I offer a resolution (H. Res. 348) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. VERA BUCHANAN, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. KELLEY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Member, the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 2 o'clock and 17 minutes p. m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, January 5, 1956, at 12 o'clock noon.

MONDAY, *January 9, 1956.*

A message from the Senate, by Mr. Carrell, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had adopted the following resolution (S. Res. 157):

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. VERA BUCHANAN, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, the Senate do now adjourn.

Proceedings
in the
United States Senate

Proceedings in the Senate

THURSDAY, *January 5, 1956.*

A message from the House of Representatives, by Mr. Bartlett, one of its clerks, communicated to the Senate the intelligence of the death of Hon. VERA BUCHANAN, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania, and transmitted the resolutions of the House thereon.

Mr. MARTIN of Pennsylvania. Mr. President, it becomes my sad duty to announce to the Senate the death of a distinguished Representative in Congress from Pennsylvania, Mrs. VERA D. BUCHANAN, who represented the 30th District.

Mrs. BUCHANAN died on November 26, 1955, following a severe illness which kept her in a hospital since last June.

She was the wife of the late Representative Frank Buchanan, who achieved a distinguished record in the House of Representatives. She was sent to Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of her husband.

Mrs. BUCHANAN had been a Member of the House since August 1951. She was reelected in 1952 and again in 1954, serving with great competence on the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, the Public Works Committee, and the Committee on Banking and Currency.

Mrs. BUCHANAN enjoyed the respect, esteem, and affection of her constituents. She made her home in McKeesport, Pa. She was a beloved wife to her late husband, and a devoted mother to her twin daughters, Joan and Jane.

To the members of her fine family, relatives and friends, we extend our deepest personal sympathy.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. McNamara in the chair). The Chair lays before the Senate a resolution coming from the House of Representatives, which will be read.

The resolution (H. Res. 348) was read, as follows:

Resolved, That the House has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Hon. VERA BUCHANAN, a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Clerk communicate these resolutions to the Senate and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Resolved, That as a further mark of respect the House do now adjourn.

Mr. KNOWLAND. Mr. President, on behalf of the senior Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. Martin], who was called away from the Chamber, and the junior Senator from Pennsylvania [Mr. Duff], I send to the desk a resolution, which I ask to have read, and for which I ask present consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be read.

The resolution (S. Res. 157) was read, considered by unanimous consent, and unanimously agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That the Senate has heard with profound sorrow the announcement of the death of Hon. VERA BUCHANAN, late a Representative from the State of Pennsylvania.

Resolved, That the Secretary communicate these resolutions to the House of Representatives and transmit a copy thereof to the family of the deceased.

Mr. HUMPHREY. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Representative, I move that the Senate do now adourn until Monday next.

The motion was unanimously agreed to; and (at 5 o'clock and 46 minutes p. m.) the Senate adjourned, the adjournment being under the order previously entered, until Monday, January 9, 1956, at 12 o'clock meridian.

7-13-56

Memorial services held in the main

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